

Greetings To Labor on 66th Anniversary

LABOR'S GOAL!
To Repeal
Taft-Hartley Law

MONTEREY COUNTY

LABOR NEWS

**Ballots Defend
Your Freedom**

**BE SURE TO VOTE
THIS YEAR AND
EVERY YEAR**

VOL. XI—NO. 1

SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1948

WHOLE NO. 517

Dignity of Labor Is U.S. Keynote

By JOHN F. SHELLEY
President, California State Federation of Labor

National recognition of the dignity of Labor is the purpose for which Labor Day has been set aside as a federal holiday in the world's greatest democracy.

The "dignity of labor" is not just a phrase to be thrown to the struggling workers of our nation on just one day a year. It is a basic principle and concept of our American way of life.

For Labor is exertion, physical and mental, and it has become, over a period of a hundred years,



JOHN F. SHELLEY

the prime force in what academicians call "the industrial revolution." This "revolution" has been for the most part bloodless. Beyond the contributions of labor in our change from an agricultural country to the modern sciences and mechanics of industry has been the risk of American capital, the other force responsible for our modern American scene.

Let us recognize these twin forces on Labor Day, 1948, and prepare to accept the invitation to contest for perpetuation of the dignity of Labor in the years to come. For the "industrial revolution" is a continuing militant challenge to the best intelligences on either side.

Dedication to Education should be our watchword in order to meet ever-recurring changes and challenges. As those who represent the dignity of Labor it is our responsibility and duty to become more, and more familiar with our fundamental purposes and principles as members of Organized Labor. It is our individual duty to know why we—or you—belong to a particular union, to a Central Labor Council, to a State Federation of Labor, to a regional group, and to the American Federation of Labor.

Such knowledge must stem from an educational program within our ranks, sponsored and endorsed by the grass roots membership. Our leaders must recognize that with such a program comes responsibility and duty beyond the duties of collective bargaining.

In order to secure our rights, we must place more stress on participation in the political scene of our community, state, and nation. We must know our legislators, administrators, and judiciary—local, state, and national. We must know their records and their attitudes to the great mass of the people, in and out of Organized Labor.

In short, we must participate in our Democracy, review the records of those who have represented us or who desire to represent us, actively work for the friends of the people and be uncompromising in our activities against those who do not express the will of the majority.

Let us ever strive to have a finer Democracy, a fuller, a more secure life for all.

Let us begin with this Labor Day to take over our duties as American citizens—register, campaign, and vote. And above all let us become informed citizens on men and measures which have their reflection in our hearthside.

In this way we can achieve Labor's ends; stop inflation, restore reasonable rents, develop proper housing, secure fair wages, hours, working conditions, protect all against the economic hazards of bad health and accidents, broaden the opportunities of our fellow citizens and reinstate equal representation in our State Senate.

The Tin, Sheet Iron and Corncorn Workers International Association, forerunner of the Sheet Metal Workers International Association (AFL), was formed January 25, 1888, at Toledo, Ohio.

JOINT COUNCIL PLAN ORGANIZATION WORK IN HOLLISTER AREA

The barbecue planned for the second of November is for the membership of Bartenders 545, only, according to Al J. Clark, business representative, and not a joint Council barbecue as reported in last week's Labor News. The committee is planning for a most enjoyable day for the Bartenders.

Business Agent Clark and Secretary-Treasurer Bertha Boles of the Culinary Alliance 467 went to Hollister on last Thursday afternoon to check conditions affecting both Locals at the Hartmann Hotel Coffee Shop and Bar. The representative of the hotel was requested to appear before the Central Labor Council and failed to respond to the invitation. Both unions have a total of 15 members represented in the controversy.

Secretary Al Clark of the Monterey Bay Area Mutual Association advises that there will be a meeting of the representatives of the four Locals held in Monterey on Friday, September 3.

Mildred Rowe, secretary-treasurer of the Bartenders, Cooks and Waiters of Watsonville and Santa Cruz is chairman of the Mutual Association.

BARTENDERS, CULINARY WORKERS 483 GAINS IN MEMBERSHIP

Secretary and Business Representative George L. Rice of Bartenders Local 483 reports the serious illness of Brother Wesley Lane, bartender of this local. Brother Lane joined the International in 1912 in Boston. Last Saturday he was taken to the hospital and the last reports are that he is still in critical condition and no visitors are allowed to see him.

Last Thursday, the business representative reported having paid a visit to the large construction job at the site of the Los Padres dam being built by the Macco Corporation. He advises that there are 125 men being employed, and they expect to be employing 200 men within 30 days. He was able to sign up the cooks and waiters, which means nine people from the union working in the kitchen.

He also visited the Rancho Carmelo Restaurant in the Carmel Valley which is operated by Arthur and Emma Bakken, both of whom are members of the Local.

Brother Rice also reports that they have taken steps towards signing up a new bar at Prince's Camp in the Santa Barbara National Forest. This place is operated and owned by Martin Gerotti, a member of a pioneer family.

The patronage by unionists of restaurants and refreshment parlors where the union house card is on display is of mutual benefit to the employee and the cooperating owner.

LABORERS 272 PRES. IMPROVING STEADILY

Brother J. M. Mattos, secretary of Laborers Local 272, reports that President R. Fenchel is still confined to his home and taking treatments, although he is improving. He gets around with the aid of a cane.

The officers and members of the union are pleased to know that work on the Soledad Prison will soon be getting under way. Stone & Webster representatives are now on the job getting the PG&E program under way. Business Representative McGinley is back from his vacation and busy clearing men to different jobs.

Some writers hold back what they know in order to have something to write about.

Recovery of Europe Will Block Stalin

By C. J. HAGGERTY
Secy., Cal. State Fed. of Labor

The Stalinist threat to world peace grows ever more menacing and the brunt of a counteroffensive to this danger must be borne by the organized labor movement.



in America and throughout the world. Today, the issue between the adherents of totalitarian rule and those supporting democracy rests upon support of the European Recovery Act. It is the implementation of the Marshall Plan in Europe which has provoked the alarming crisis in Berlin.

In every nook and corner of the world, those opposed and those supporting the Marshall Plan become identified with or against Stalinism. That is why the citizens of the United States have pledged a total of \$6,098,000,000 for foreign assistance, of which sum, \$5,300,000,000 is to be spent to rehabilitate the economy of Europe. This is a sound investment for peace, and offers the possibility of bringing into existence a federation of European nations for mutual progress and defense.

The American Federation of Labor has given wholehearted support to the development of this policy. Furthermore, in every field of activity on the international scale, the AFL has taken an active part to curtail the Stalinist threat, and is programming to take the initiative at every opportunity. (Continued on Page 2)

BARBERS 896 SECTY TO ATTEND BARBERS INTL. CONVENTION

Journeyman Barbers 896 will be represented at the International Convention to be held in Indianapolis early in September.

Secretary A. H. Thompson, who has been a member of the union for many years and has held the office at different times, was elected as delegate. He plans to leave on Tuesday morning, September 7, and will visit in Richmond over the Labor Day holiday, then in the company of Brother Hugh Caudel of Richmond Local 508 will go East by Southern Pacific. The convention starts September 13 and will continue for five days.

Brother Thompson will also attend the State Convention, which meets September 10, 11, & 12, just previous to the International Convention.

Lumber Yard Handlers, Mill Laborers Got 12 1/2c Wage Increase Aug. 23

S. M. Thomas, business representative for Hod Carriers and Laborers 690 and Plasterers and Cement Finishers 337, reports that progress is in full swing on the dam at Los Padres; he had just returned from contacting the job last Thursday afternoon.

In the Monterey vicinity there is a shortage of good labor and mechanics.

On Monday, August 23, the lumber yard handlers and mill laborers received an increase in wages of 12 1/2 cents per hour.

Workers whose social security cards have been lost or destroyed may get duplicate cards bearing the number they have always used at any office of the Social Security Administration.

CENTRAL LABOR UNION OF SALINAS BACKS JOINT COUNCIL IN DRIVE FOR ORGANIZATION IN HOLLISTER

Affiliated unions of the Central Labor Council of Monterey County had much to present to the delegates assembled on Friday, August 20th, with President Robert Shinn presiding.

Minutes of the previous meeting as read by Secretary Wm. G. Kenyon were approved.

REPORTS OF UNIONS
The several reports showed much activity in different locals among those reporting were:

Bartenders 545 report that organization work in the Hollister district is progressing. Carpenters 925 report three received by initiation and that they will be shown a film of conditions at the Di Giorgio Farms at the meeting on Tuesday, September 7th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
The Executive Committee of the Council reported in meeting with the Joint Executive Boards of the Bartenders and Culinary Workers as they had an invitation to the manager of the Hartmann Hotel at Hollister to meet with them, but he failed to present himself.

VISITING COMMITTEE
Brothers Jim Foster and Glen Wilkerson reported calling on Bro. Fenchel, President of the Laborers Union, who is on the injured list. They found him feeling better and to help him forget his troubles, left him a box of cigars.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE
The members of the By-Laws Committee have held a meeting and discussed the proposed new by-laws and it is expected they will be ready for the consideration of the delegates shortly.

Brother Bannert of the "Films" reports he has been contacting Veteran organizations with a view of having the "Magic State" and the Di Giorgio Farms presented for their showing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
The organizing committee will

be composed of Brothers Harris, Lara and Harter. Brother Woodward was appointed to the Negotiation Committee.

Brother Clark of the Bartenders suggested that the Organizing Committee assist in the setting up of a Co-ordinating committee as in Hollister there are several crafts now being organized in that area.

The Council after hearing the case of the Hartmann Hotel, Bar and Restaurant authorized the placing of same on the "We Do Not Patronize" list of the Council. Brother Roy Hearn was assigned ten tickets that had been received from the Long Beach committee making plans in that City to entertain the State convention delegates.

Brother George R. Harter was delegated to attend the Statewide Legislative Conference to be held in Fresno September 11th and 12th.

Secretary Wm. G. Kenyon states that all unions, fraternal and civic organizations who desire to see the films "Poverty in the Valley" and the "Magic State" to their membership should contact Brother Albert A. Harris, Chairman, Film Committee, at 274 E. Alisal Street; Phone 4893.

Secretary Kenyon states these films are educational and constructive and they are the property of the Central Labor Union and they hope the films will be shown by all the unions.

Japanese Form Newspaper Union

Tokyo.—A new union, the All-Japan Newspaper Workers, has been set up here to replace the old organization that broke up after a strike in 1946.

Register now—Vote November 2

Break Labor, Is Goal of Big Business

By GEORGE MEANY
Secy.-Treas., A. F. of L.

In the early years of the American Federation of Labor, labor's holiday was regarded primarily as



a day on which it was fitting to give serious thought to the problems confronting the millions who work in order to live. The true meaning of Labor Day was never overlooked.

In recent years there has been a tendency to forget the real significance of Labor Day and to use it for purposes of recreation or pleasure exclusively. It would be entirely fitting if, on this Labor (Continued on Page 2)

The account number that appears on the social security card of every worker identifies his wage account. The amount of retirement and family benefits that may be payable is set by this account.

Labor Day Theme: 'Use Your Vote!'

By WILLIAM GREEN
President, American Federation of Labor

On this Labor Day I appeal to the nation's workers to do a little serious thinking about their own future, the future of our country and the future peace of the world.

To a great extent the power to shape that future lies in the hands of the millions of wage earners who constitute our trade union movement.

Today a dangerous tide has set in. Our economic welfare is threatened by inflation, our basic freedoms are endangered by reactionary forces and our social well-being is being undermined by inaction.

Against these perils, you, the workers of our land, possess an invincible weapon—the right to vote. This is a national election year. The citizens of the United States will have an opportunity to elect a President of the United States and almost an entirely new Congress.

LABOR DAY KEYNOTE

Therefore, let the keynote of all our Labor Day celebrations this year be: "USE YOUR VOTE!"

Why this urgency? The facts are clear.

The 80th Congress enacted over a presidential veto the Taft-Hartley bill, which is aimed at destroying the trade union movement and tearing down the high standards that the unions have created for America.

BRUTAL LIVING COSTS

The 80th Congress swept aside all the economic protections of our people against inflation and has since refused to lift a finger to halt skyrocketing prices. The brutal and unjustified increase in the cost of living is robbing every worker and his family of his hard-earned wages.

The 80th Congress has done nothing to bring about an effective, low-cost housing program, despite the emergency need for millions of new homes. It has frozen the minimum wage level at 40 cents an hour—\$16 a week for 40 hours of work—a starvation standard. It has shamefully neglected the welfare of elderly, retired workers, now forced to subsist on social security benefits averaging less than \$25 a month. It has callously disregarded the health of the nation and its children by refusing to give consideration to the enactment of a national health insurance program.

VOTERS ABOUSED

The foregoing indictment should be sufficient to arouse the American voters to demand and obtain a housecleaning of Congress at the coming elections. The 80th Congress, while ignoring human needs, has responded willingly and promptly to every demand of big business. It has hamstringed labor unions, at the behest of the National Association of Manufacturers. It has adopted tax reduction legislation which offers only minor savings to low-income families, but provides huge savings to the wealthy.

For these reasons, big business is going to bat for the members of the 80th Congress who did its bidding. The voters will be flooded with propaganda praising the legislative record. Money talks in politics, and this year the big money will be talking on the side of anti-labor congressmen and senators.

But in America, even the power of money cannot overcome the indignation of a free people. Remember the 80th Congress was elected by only one-third of the qualified voters of the country. The hosts of labor who stayed away from the polls in that 1946 election helped to elect reactionary lawmakers by not voting.

VOTE AMERICAN

This must be changed in 1948. No union member can be a good union member unless he is a loyal American first. No American citizen can be a good citizen unless he votes.

It is imperative that every union member in our ranks registers and votes in the 1948 election. His duty goes even beyond that. He should see to it that every member of his family of voting age and all his friends, likewise, register and vote.

Remember the slogan: "Use Your Vote!"

From a long-range standpoint, the peace of the world depends upon the power of America to safeguard the peace. America must remain strong. To keep strong, our country must remain politically

free and economically healthy.

The policies instituted by the 80th Congress are sapping the economic strength of our nation and depriving millions of citizens organized in the trade union movement of basic freedoms. Those policies must be reversed.

New Apprentice Training Class Starts Sept. 13

Related apprentice training courses start at the Salinas Evening School, along with other courses, the week of September 13. Registration will be held on September 2, 3, 7 and 8. It is expected that apprentice courses will include related training for three and four years of carpentry, electricity, plumbing, painting, sheet metal, and plastering and cement work in the building trades; related training in the automotive trade; and related training in meat cutting.

Short-term journeyman courses in the different trades can be organized on request.

For homemakers the evening school offers beginning and advanced work in sewing, dressmaking, and tailoring, a short course in slip cover and draping, canning of one's own produce at the community canning center, and several arts and crafts courses, including pottery, ceramics.

Home gardening, poultry raising, home nursing, interior decorating, and home planning are also available if a sufficient number of people request them.

A parent's forum may develop during the fall, similar to the forum held last year. The topic, "Patterns for Family Living," has been suggested, but no action has been taken as yet.

A child study class is now in operation at the Monterey County Housing unit in the Alisal.

More information about these classes can be obtained by telephoning 7262 in the morning, afternoons or evenings from Monday through Friday, except on holidays.

LABOR BUS. AGENTS MEET OFFICIALS OF STONE & WEBSTER

Laborers Local 272 Business Representative J. B. McGinley is back on the job again after a short vacation. Brother McGinley, with Brother George R. Harter, business representative of Carpenters Local 925 met with the General Superintendent, Mr. McCleary and Mr. Knutson, resident engineers for the Stone & Webster General Contractors on the new power plant at Moss Landing. The meeting was held on Wednesday, August 25, and the contracting firm is establishing offices in Forrester Hall at Main and San Luis Streets in Salinas. They are on the ground and preparing for getting the job started. Brother McGinley reports that he finds the Stone & Webster representatives both fine fellows.

Mississippi spends only \$400 a year per classroom unit, compared to \$4,100 in New York.

THE MARCH OF PROGRESS!



Buy Union Label Goods and Use Union Services

On LABOR DAY it is fitting for the millions of members of the American Federation of Labor to pause for a moment and try to visualize the wonderful achievements made over the past 66 years. Riding in your car from your home with all its modern conveniences to an appropriate celebration, briefly review the cavalcade of events from 1882, when wages per day were about what they are now per hour and working hours per week were twice as long. These and other accomplishments—won by the A. F. of L.—established the American standard of living—the best in the world. It has surely been a march of progress! To protect these marvelous results, buy Union Label goods and use Union services.—I. M. ORNBURN.

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The Commission Is Uneasy

The Federal Trade Commission might as well have saved its breath when it told Congress the other day that unless the steadily increasing power of giant corporations is curbed, the country "will go down the road to collectivism."

The 80th Congress has demonstrated that it is putty in the hands of the giant corporations and far from doing anything to hamper them, it falls over itself to do their bidding; for example, exempting the railroads from the anti-trust laws as was done at the last session.

The Federal Trade Commission delivered itself of some resounding statements in its communication to Congress. Cooperators might have written them. They echo the things cooperators say over and over.

It is "crucial," said the Commission, that workable means be found to prevent "giant corporations from steadily increasing their power at the expense of small business." Clearly, the nemesis of small business are giant corporations, as the Commission sees it. But the corporations have cleverly diverted small business organizations into a sensible war on co-ops.

"If nothing is done to check the growth in concentration, either the giant corporations will ultimately take over the country or the government will be impelled to step in and impose some form of direct regulation," the Commission continued.

Here the Commission is guilty of muddy thinking. True, if something is not done to stop the growth of the economic monsters dominating the American business scene, they will take over the country. But government regulation will not stop them. History shows clearly that the regulated soon run the regulators.

The only solution to the problem is competition. And, in the long run, the only people who can and will give the giant corporations the competition they profess to love but which they fear like death, are cooperators and their co-ops. This is the simple truth which must be hammered home to the American people if economic democracy is ever to be brought about and if political democracy in this country is to survive. Congressmen better find it out, too.

The Free Way

Our democratic ideal insists that the soap box, public platform, press and radio be open to all. Our art, music and literature are not limited by those specifications which glorify a person or party in power.

In these and in other ways we guarantee through the First Amendment to the Constitution what Holmes called "the free trade in ideas." We can shape opinion for this or the panacea or reform.

We can experiment and proceed by trial and error. We can have revolution, if we so will it, by the peaceful route. And having had it, we can undo it four years later. We are committed to no one single panacea for all the ills of mankind, whether they be economic or spiritual.

We, the democrats, know that God works in mysterious ways, that the paths to salvation — to happiness and achievement — are not one but many, that no one economic theory is adequate to satisfy all the needs of man in the complex society of a changing world. No political or other standard is set for art, literature and music.

We think that the right to experiment with new techniques is as important in the fields of politics, sociology and economics as it is in art and the sciences.

This rejection of absolutes, this freedom for experimentation mark the first basic and irreconcilable difference between the political philosophies of the totalitarian Right and the totalitarian Left on the one hand and the political philosophy of the democrats on the other.—Justice William O. Douglas.

Morons Do Amazingly Well

Who is a "moron"? We have been asking that question for some time, but up to date haven't received a satisfying reply.

Now Dr. Ruby Kennedy, professor of sociology at Connecticut College, steps forward to enlighten us. She says a moron is a person with an I. Q. of 50 to 75. But Dr. Kennedy has discovered that these so-called morons are getting along as well, or even better, than those who have higher I. Q's.

They earn as much as non-morons, and girl morons may earn more than women and girls of "normal intelligence."

That's all very interesting. We wonder if a lot doesn't depend on who is giving the tests? Suppose some of these morons were to catch up with Dr. Kennedy and insist that she answer the questions they think important. Would her I. Q. be over 75? Frankly, we don't know, but the experiment would be enlightening.

A bore is one who talks when you want him to listen.—Pierce.

Break Labor, Is Goal of Big Business

(Continued from Page 1)

Day of 1948, we who toil for a living were to observe the holiday in the older way. For surely it must be clear that organized labor today is face to face with situations which are as grave as any that befallen our predecessors.

NO OVERSTATEMENT

This statement may seem rather sweeping, but it is no overstatement. Quite the contrary. Today our movement, whose development has meant so much to our country in her rise to pre-eminence among the nations of the world, faces the threat of destruction. There are always those who are loath to admit unpleasant facts, and there are those who question whether the enemies of labor are actually seeking to destroy us. But the handwriting is on the wall, and those who will take the trouble to read it must see that the goal of labor is the annihilation of the organized labor movement as it has existed on the soil of free America.

BLAME WORKERS

Already, although their power is still far less than they expect it to be a little later on, the reactionaries of Big Business and Big Politics have blamed the working people of America with oppressive anti-labor legislation. They have put out not only the Taft-Hartley Act but state laws that also cripple the wage-earner. Let us not lose sight of the fact that the reactionaries have been having a field day in the past three years in a number of state legislatures, with the result that today hostile state laws, of varying degrees of severity, are operative in more than half the states of the Union.

MORE TO COME

The injuries inflicted upon the tens of millions of average wage-earning citizens since the end of World War II have been dealt out to us by the reactionaries of business and politics whose grip on federal and state lawmaking bodies is not yet complete. There are quite a few items on their program for the American labor movement which they are keeping veiled for the present. While for the most part the National Association of Manufacturers and its unholy agents and allies have done a good job of guarding the secrets of their future warfare against organized labor, enough has leaked out to make clear that labor's enemies have in store new measures so drastic as to make even the Taft-Hartley Act look mild by contrast.

Yes, American labor does have serious matters to consider on this Labor Day. To my mind, the most serious problem of all is one that must be of concern not only to workers but to all other Americans who believe—really and truly believe, in their hearts—that the free American way of life is the best way of life to be found on our planet.

AMERICAN WAY BEST

Our American way of life is indeed the best ever devised by the minds of men, and it is the best not simply because we have the most telephones and automobiles and bathtubs and skyscrapers. There is much more to it than that. The American way of life is best for various reasons and in various ways, but the most important point about America is that we have been free from the blight of what is often termed "the class struggle."

The nations of Europe know what the class struggle means. The class struggle has been going on over there for decades. It is one of the sad facts of European life.

American labor, as represented by the American Federation of Labor, has always rejected the concept of the class struggle. We have never been out to destroy the employers. On the contrary, we have always recognized and defended the legitimate rights of employers. No stauncher defenders of our American free enterprise system exist than the 7,500,000 American working men and women who make up the American Federation of Labor. We have asked and fought for recognition of labor's rights. We have asked and fought for economic justice. But we have always recognized that decent, fair employers were fully entitled to decent, fair treatment at labor's hands.

"LIVE AND LET LIVE"

Where the class struggle idea calls for "war to the death" between employers on the one side and workers on the other side, our idea in the American labor movement has been "live and let live." In the past 100 years, millions of people left Europe and came to America because they were sick of the class struggle. No one circumstance has contributed more directly or more vitally to the phenomenal rise of our nation than the absence of the ruinous class struggle. America has grown mighty and it has prospered, and none have prospered more than the employers of the nation.

And yet today the National Association of Manufacturers and certain legislators have permitted their hatred of organized labor to blind them to this fundamental fact. Like the totalitarianism of the Left, but without the same deliberate planning and awareness of what they are doing, the controlling clique of the NAM and their

The Real Estate Lobby Now After British Housing

Washington.—Having seen the 80th Congress do its bidding by killing the Taft-Elender-Wagner housing bill, the U.S. real estate lobby is now devoting some of its attention to attacking British housing programs.

A housing project near London named Welwyn Gardens was recently placed under government operation. Vice-Pres. Herbert U. Nelson of the National Assn. of Real Estate Boards heard about this while travelling in England. He wrote back to his organization about the Welwyn Gardens incident in language which sounded like that heard during Congressional hearings on the TEW bill: "British socialists delivered a crushing blow against private and creative endeavor in England a few days ago."

Nelson's group, the NAREB, was part of the swarm of real estate lobbyists which killed the TEW bill on the grounds that its public housing features were socialistic. Another of the lobbyist organizations, the National Assn. of Home Builders of the U.S., went out of its way to indicate its share in prolonging the housing shortage by circulating copies of a speech by Rep. Ralph W. Gwinn (R., N.Y.) in which he summarized the corporation arguments which killed the TEW bill in Congress.

Nelson's letter apparently indicates fear on the part of the real estate lobby that any British successes may encourage the idea of public housing here. That the lobbyists have something to be worried about was indicated by a U.S. Labor Dept. release of August 24 which said:

"A substantial rise in the real income of the British wage earner has been achieved since V-E Day." The Labor Dept. statement went on to say that economic difficulties created by the war continued but that "the virtual disappearance of unemployment, more equitable distribution of supplies through rationing and price control, and subsidized housing during and after the war have raised the economic position of the wage earner in Britain."

British Labor Eyes Engineering Union's Wage Fight

London.—All British labor is carefully watching a court case here—the Amalgamated Engineering Union's fight for higher wages before a Ministry of Labor inquiry board.

With their families, the engineering workers represent some 10 million people, about a quarter of Britain's entire population. But the figures alone do not indicate the importance of the case. What makes it so vital is that it is the first major wage claim to reach established government machinery since the announcement of the wage freeze policy. On trial, observers point out, is the whole domestic policy of the Labor Government and, indirectly, the foreign policy which dictates it.

Seeking a \$2.60 weekly raise, the workers point to a 30 per cent increase in production over 1947 and corporation profits 25 per cent higher than the previous year. When the wage freeze was instituted the government indicated it would not apply to those industries where production was on the upgrade.

Industry officials are hiding behind the government's decree, saying they are following policy. The workers are not accepting this line but are preparing to go on strike unless the raise is forthcoming.

The Rochdale Society was organized by twenty-eight workers, active supporters of Owenism and Chartism in 1844.

Federal and state legislative cohorts have been taking steps to bring the nation ever closer to the precipice of the class struggle.

CLASS STRUGGLE EVIL

American labor has always refused to believe that this deadly disease will ever catch hold here. We have never wanted it. We do not want it now. The class struggle is an evil thing, as the tragic experiences of other peoples, in other lands, have amply shown. But the NAM and other reactionaries who are driving to bring about a condition in which the emergence of the class struggle concept would be inevitable even in democratic America had better stop and reflect for a moment—if they can spare that much time from their plottings against working men and women.

Let them ponder and ponder well that, if there is going to be a class struggle in America, it can have only one result, only one outcome—not the crushing of labor, as they desire, but the utter defeat of the initiators of the struggle, the powerful reactionary wing of Big Business.

Despite the menace which we face today, I am confident that we can soon again move forward on the road to a better day for America's workers. The past record of the American Federation of Labor indicates beyond question that strong opposition will bring out even stronger labor's will to progress.

Recovery of Europe Will Block Stalin

(Continued from Page 1)

FAILURES AT HOME
A serious handicap to this work is the failure of the legislative branch of our own government to adopt the necessary kind of legislation to provide social security, curb inflation, furnish adequate housing, and take care of the numerous other evils which threaten the stability of the labor movement in this country.

It is to the advantage of the Communist Front to have a reactionary government in our own country, for they hope to take advantage of a leftward reaction of the workers to implement their international plan of control. Thus, the failure of the 80th Congress to enact the various progressive measures will, in the long run, play into the hands of Stalin. And that is why it can be said that the record of the 80th Congress demonstrates the triumph of selfish interests over the general welfare. It is more imperative than ever, therefore, for labor to activate itself politically so that there will be no repetition of this Congress.

The Taft-Hartley Act has deprived organized labor of rights enjoyed for many years prior to the passage of the National Labor Relations Act of 1935. Unions may no longer peacefully picket and advertise the issues of a labor dispute wherever they feel such action necessary. Their political rights have been curtailed; they are subject to injunctions in labor disputes without hearing. The closed shop is prohibited and unions and employers may not agree on a union shop without going through election procedures. The union shop elections have been a heavy and completely unnecessary burden on taxpayers, for the union shop has been won in 99 per cent of all elections held. In the building and construction trades, the Board has attempted to assert jurisdiction, but has stated that it is administratively impossible to hold union shop elections. This act has turned collective bargaining into collective litigation and made industrial relations a political football.

CONGRESS' RECORD

The record of the Congress on price control is one of complete inaction—in spite of the fact that wage increases have been wiped out by the uncontrolled rise in living costs, and the pressure is continuing to mount.

On the Taft-Elender-Wagner bill, which would have provided the first constructive program to meet our critical housing problem, the Congress failed to take any action, although millions of American citizens are forced to live in slums and substandard homes. The measure finally passed by the summer special session under pressure from President Truman, is inadequate and far short of what is needed. In the last hundred years, the federal government has spent billions in subsidizing private industry. In the last century the railroads received untold sums through grants of land and money; agricultural subsidies for soil and water conservation and related projects totalled eight billion dollars in the period 1932-1948. Even in the heyday of individualism from 1929 to 1931, our merchant marine received about 17 million dollars a year through mail subsidies. In the face of this record, Congress has a national obligation to provide adequate housing to those American families who cannot afford it.

The tax bill passed by the Congress favored the higher income brackets, but failed to relieve the lower income groups.

In regard to social security, instead of increasing the coverage of this protection, the Congress took action which it has been estimated, will exclude more than 750,000 workers.

The President's proposal to raise the minimum wage was completely ignored.

The Department of Labor was reduced to an ignoble and ineffective government agency.

CVP EMASCULATED

The Central Valley Project, which means so much to the farmers and workers of California because of the cheap water and power it can make available, is being emasculated.

Efforts to provide a permanent FEPC, an anti-lynch law, an anti-poll tax law, were sabotaged. A bill to provide \$300,000,000 a year as grants to states to provide a minimum educational program for every child was pigeonholed in the House.

Bills for medical aid and health insurance did not even leave the Senate Committee on Labor.

As finally passed by the Congress, the measure to admit 200,000 displaced persons from Europe discriminated grossly and unjustly against Catholics and Jews.

If there is to be no repetition of the 80th Congress' record, organized labor must take an active interest in the 1948 national, state, and local elections. The 15,000,000 members of organized labor and their families and their friends must exercise their democratic right and obligation to regain the rights which the Congress and the various state legislatures have taken away from them, Labor can

P. G. & E. To Build Huge Power Plant At Moss Landing

A huge steam-operated electric generating plant will be built near Moss Landing on Monterey Bay, according to announcement today by William G. B. Euler, vice president and general manager of the Pacific Gas & Electric Company. The plant will have an installed capacity of 402,000 horsepower, making it the largest power plant on the P. G. & E. system.

Announcement was made today when the company acquired a site of approximately 280 acres at the junction of Highway 1 and Elk Horn Slough, one-eighth mile north of Moss Landing. The company acquired the property in a transaction with Albert and Louis Vierra. The Vierra family has farmed the acreage many years.

The new power plant will have three 134,000-horsepower generators. The new power will be fed through new 220,000-volt and 110,000-volt transmission circuits into the interconnected P. G. & E. network which serves 46 northern and central California counties.

IATSE Would Make Voting Condition For Membership

Cleveland.—"As a condition of membership (in the union), each member shall register and become a qualified voter and vote."

Delegates to the 4-day convention of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (AF L) called on President Richard F. Walsh to request affiliated locals to put this unusual clause into their by-laws. The convention took this stand after hearing political action appeals from AFL President William Green and Director Joseph Keenan of Labor's League for Political Education, who warned that the Taft-Hartley act was a time bomb set to explode after the November election.

The convention avoided a vote on a resolution pledging support to the Democratic platform, passing on to general officers a proposed indorsement of President Truman. Walsh was re-elected to his fourth 2-year term.

Right to Vote

It's a disgrace that such things are news but—Negroes voted generally in a South Carolina election last week for the first time since 1876. And even now the right of Negroes to vote in South Carolina is not secure. The federal judge who ruled in favor of Negroes voting has been the target of invective from most candidates seeking nomination in the primary, especially in the 5-man senate race. —Western Michigan News.

and must, make itself felt in the coming general election.

The National Labor League for Political Education, established by the AFL, and the various state and local Leagues for Political Education will mean nothing, if they are permitted to remain as paper organizations and are not rendered into living, militant agencies for the mobilization of labor's votes.

REAPPORTIONMENT

In California, Proposition No. 13, providing for reapportionment of the California Senate, is the most important state issue before organized labor. For 16 long and dreary years, social and political progress in legislation has been blocked by the present Senate which represents counties, regardless of their economic importance or population. The State Senate must be returned to the people. We must regain the representative legislature which, in the days of Hiram Johnson, made California a leader in progressive and enlightened legislation. In the present State Senate, six million people have five senators, while four million have 35. Minority rule must end. The vote of every citizen of this state must be given equal weight in our state senate. A YES vote on Proposition No. 13 is the answer.

Other propositions and candidates on the November ballot have been endorsed by the California Labor's League for Political Education. Vital issues of housing, liquor control and social insurance are involved. Labor must act on these endorsements.

Our national leaders have told us that during these coming months political action is more important than the day-to-day administration of union affairs. Union leaders must make the registration and political education of organized labor their primary job. The 15,000,000 members of organized labor through the Nation can win—if they register now and vote in November.

On this Labor Day, we must, in all sincerity, rededicate ourselves as members of the American labor movement. If we are to stave off the Stalinist threat, and if we are to secure our position at home by preventing the Communists from exploiting social evils which political reactionary interests in this country continue to ignore, then every member of organized labor must become a registered voter and cast a vote in the November election in support of the recommendations made by the California State Federation of Labor.

UNION LADYBIRD



Betty Skelton, a member of Lodge 750 of the Ladies' Auxiliary, Bro. of Railroad Trainmen (unaffiliated), will give a stunt-flying exhibition in the Labor Day National Air Races in Cleveland, Ohio.

NEW CURRENCIES HAVE EFFECT OF SPLITTING GERMANY IN HALF

Three years ago President Truman, Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin and British Prime Minister Clement Attlee agreed at Potsdam to demilitarize, denazify and democratize conquered Germany, to make her pay reparations to her victims, and to keep her under Allied occupation till these objectives were achieved. While Germany was to be divided into American, Soviet, British and French zones for occupation purposes, her

financial and economic unity was to be preserved under joint four-power control. When the occupying troops finally left after a peace treaty, a united but democratic Germany was to remain.

Since then, the objectives of Potsdam have been steadily whittled down. The western powers now ask for a restored Germany as "the workshop of Europe" with most of the old German big business trusts judged guilty of Nazism and made beneficiaries of Marshall Plan grants. The last Big Four foreign ministers' conference broke up when Secretary of State George C. Marshall refused reparations to east European victims of Hitler's invasion. A plan for a separate west German government is being carried through.

The last act of the drama was the introduction of a separate currency in the western zone. Admitting that Germany still did not acknowledge "any stain of responsibility for the ruin wrought by Hitler," the British financial plan, the Economist, stated June 21 that the western powers had nonetheless decided to promote her to an ally. The Economist stressed that this made "the bisection of Germany complete." It titled its editorial "The End of Potsdam."

A day earlier, Marshal Sokolovsky, Soviet commander in Berlin, also said the Potsdam agreement had been violated and Germany "finally severed." Anything on which a Russian representative and a British big business weekly can agree hardly admits of any other interpretation.

However, while the Economist hailed the split, Sokolovsky wanted to return to the Potsdam agreement. A uniform all-Germany currency reform based on a four-power agreement was entirely possible and necessary," he declared. This was reiterated June 24 by the foreign ministers of Russia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania, who called for joint completion of Big Four tasks in Germany followed by an early peace treaty and end to the occupation.

Sokolovsky then blockaded all western land and river traffic to Berlin, which is surrounded by the Soviet zone on all sides. He also withdrew from the four-power body that ran the German capital on grounds that it made no sense without a joint policy.

PROTECTIVE ACTION
The U.S. press has cut some high shenanigans over these actions. The fact is, however, that the western currency reform gave

"You're dern tootin' it does!" rejoined the veteran hunter.

"How so?" he was asked.

"Well," said Jack. "When them bears see me dressed up like a dude from Memphis they decide right away that I couldn't hit the side of a barn at ten paces, and that, anyhow, I'm pretty sure to be too drunk to do any shootin' a 'tail. So they just don't pay no attention to me. I'm able to shoot 'em at point-blank range!"

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AFL Leads All Unions Qualifying Before NLRB

Washington.—The National Labor Relations Board reported here that 171 unions were qualified as of July 31 to use the board's facilities, divided as follows: A. F. of L., 93; CIO, 30; and independent, 48. Union officers must file non-Communist affidavits and financial data to qualify.

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Great Lakes Seamen's Strike May Move to Sea

By TOM CARLSON

Montreal. — The Great Lakes strike by the Canadian Seamen's Union, which began in April, may spread to deep-sea vessels.

This development seemed likely as deep-sea shipowners served notice on the union that the current contract would end October 15. If the companies, among the most powerful in Canadian monopoly circles, force the strike 10,000 seamen will be involved.

Recognizing that the seamen are the testing ground in the big business campaign to smash organized labor, the CSU executive board has authorized all local officers to mobilize members "in any manner necessary to protect the union."

The CSU board has issued an appeal to the International Transport Federation to support the union both morally and financially in its fight against "those shipowners who are out to destroy the CSU and subvert free trade unionism in Canada." The ITF is composed of seamen, longshoremen and railway workers in nearly all the nations of the world.

The CSU's Great Lakes walkout has been backed by both AFL and CIO unions. Pres. Percy Bengough of the Trades & Labor Council, parent body of Canada's AFL unions, has given his all-out support to the strikers despite pressure by AFL right-wingers that he purge the CSU of what they term "Communist leadership."

Natl. Guard Marches

Use of the National Guard in strikebreaking in Ohio after a 10-year lapse of such practices sounded an ominous note for all unionists who look into the future. Strikebreaking and unionbusting will not flower out in full glory until there is recession and unemployment. But the pattern for such activities has been laid at the Univis plant in Dayton.—The (Cincinnati) Sun.

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Does Your Union Use the B.L.S.?

San Francisco. — Many unions have not yet learned to take advantage of the free services available to them from the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Bureau gathers facts in a variety of fields of concern to the wage earner, and as a result, many otherwise debatable issues have been removed from the collective bargaining process.

The best known activity of BLS is its consumers' price index, or "cost of living index." Price data are available for the U.S. as a whole, and for 34 individual cities. West Coast cities include Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle. The price index for Los Angeles is available monthly, but because of the appropriations cut, the indexes for the other three cities have been issued quarterly since the middle of last year. Food indexes are published monthly for all cities.

Another important activity is the wage rate surveys, which, during the current fiscal year (until June 30, 1949) include such industries as hotels, power laundries, auto repair shops, dressers, men's suits and coats, footwear, furniture, paints, machinery, foundries, department stores, and—cutting across industries—office and clerical workers. Special surveys of particular concern to the West Coast will cover the airplane industry, canning, petroleum refining, and sawmills. In addition to obtaining a picture of the wage structure in each industry, the BLS also determines the prevailing practices about vacations with pay, paid holidays and similar items.

The Bureau's construction statistics program is about to be expanded to provide local data on Los Angeles and the nine counties comprising the S. F. Bay Area. An attempt will be made to obtain data on permit valuations, which together with data on the type of buildings to be constructed, will provide a good measure for construction labor requirements.

The Bureau publishes accident frequency rates for about 180 industries and conducts special accident cause surveys. One of these slated for the current fiscal year, in the paper industry, will be of particular concern to the West Coast.

Employment trends, average earnings, industry prospects, are evaluated in the Bureau's occupational outlook studies. It is also studying the trend in productivity. A well-known function of BLS is its data on work stoppages. It is the only authoritative source of the number of strikes, and the economic cost of strikes. Less well publicized, but much more important to unions, is the work of analyzing provisions of collective agreements between unions and employers. These analyses provide small unions with the agreement provisions developed by the large, well-informed and well staffed unions, thus giving them a chance to model their own language accordingly.

The Bureau is a valuable source of information with which unions should be well acquainted. Inquiries should be addressed to: Regional Director, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 550 Federal Office Building, San Francisco, California.

Witch-Hunts Are Growing Danger, Educator Warns

Estes Park, Colo. — A dramatic warning that witch-hunting in the U.S. is growing worse from day to day came August 23 from Dr. Ernest O. Melby, Dean of the New York University School of Education.

The mad spurt of witch-hunts is threatening "the very freedoms which our constitution has guaranteed to us," Dr. Melby said in his speech before college administrators from 41 states at a meeting sponsored by the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

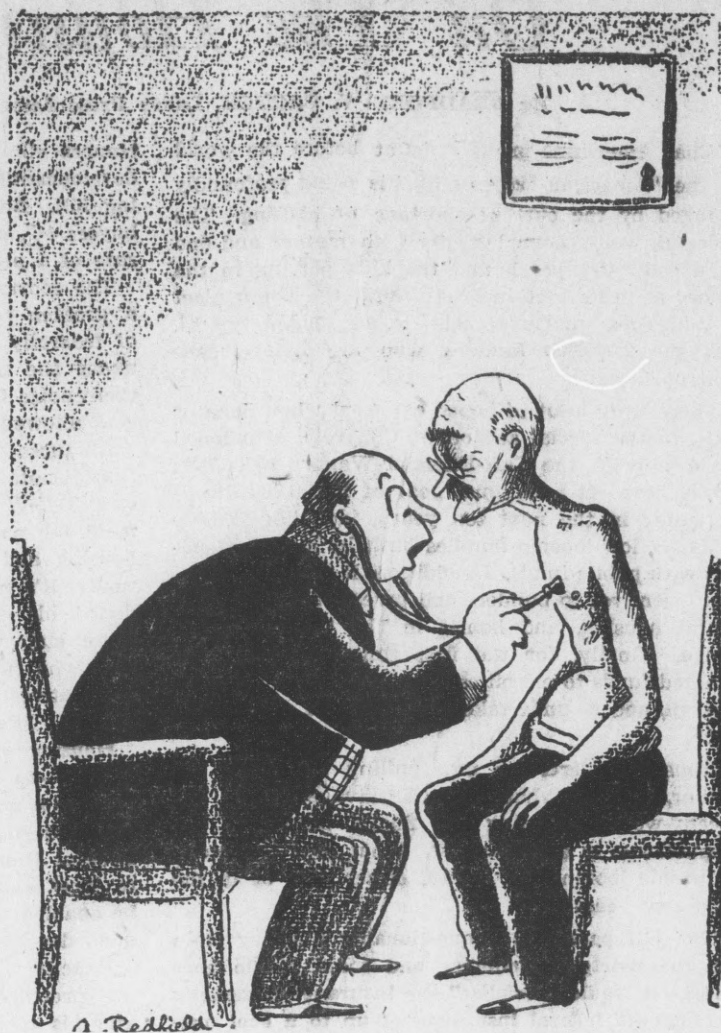
Dr. Melby cited the ban on The Nation, liberal weekly magazine, in New York and Massachusetts as one of products of anti-Communist hysteria. "Communism is an idea and you can't destroy ideas with witch-hunts," he said. "It has been tried many, many times in human history and it has always failed."

Pointing to the huge amounts of money being spent by the U.S. to halt communism in Europe, the educator said: "I am for it and so are you, but it will not stop the spread of communism. At the time we are spending money in Europe we're preparing for war, and we think that's the final blow we're going to strike at communism. You can't defeat communism in war because communism is an idea and if you kill all the Communists in the world millions of others will arise to take their places."

The solution of the problem, he said, is not witch-hunts, but action to alleviate the conditions that make people Communists.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, average gross weekly earnings of 13 million U.S. production workers totaled \$51.89 in May.

HEARTLESS



"Are you sure you had one? I don't hear a thing."

DIXIECRAT BACKERS ARE A CORPORATE WHO'S WHO

By STETSON KENNEDY

A bit of investigation reveals that the list of clients represented by some of the men heading up the Dixiecrat "master race" party reads like a Who's Who of corporate America.

Take Gessner McCorvey, for instance, state chairman of Alabama's Demos, who engineered the placing of only anti-Truman electors on the ballot, so that Alabama voters can't vote for Truman in November even if they want to.

McCorvey, it turns out, represents such oil companies as Standard, Gulf, Atlantic, Humble and Magnolia; such railroads as the Southern, L & N, Gulf, Mobile & Ohio; the Tennessee Coal, Iron & RR (a U. S. Steel subsidiary), Alcoa Steamship, Natl. Gypsum, Aluminum Ore Co., Kraft Paper, S. H. Kress, Sears Roebuck, Merchants Natl. Bank and 17 of the biggest insurance companies in the U.S.

BOLT OF THE BIG MULES — Then there's former governor Frank Dixon of Alabama, a key figure in the Dixiecrat gang, who counts among his clients DuPont, Southern Oil Stores Inc., and such "Big Mule" Alabama industrial empires as Avondale Mills and De-Bardeleben Coal.

Marion Rushton, another of Bama's bolters, represents exactly 38 big insurance companies, plus the Pullman Co., Western Union, Chase Natl. Bank of N.Y., Standard Chemical & Oil Co., Alabama & Georgia RR, Buckeye Cotton Oil Co. and other big business enterprises.

Over in Louisiana, John U. Barr has succeeded in getting the Dixiecrat slate on the ballot. He is proprietor of Federal Fibre Mills, a director of the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers and the Louisiana Manufacturers Assn., and vice president of the Southern States Industrial Council.

Back in '44, Barr organized a Southwide Central Committee of industrialists who tried by hook or by crook to turn the South's electors against FDR. He got out reams of propaganda arousing prejudice against Negroes and Jews; and when the time came to report to Congress the affiliation of his

outfit, he replied: "Republican."

All this merely scratches the surface of the reactionary corporate backing which lies behind the "states rights" fig leaf of the Dixiecrat movement. Next week I'll dig up and turn inside out some more.

Bring Democracy To the Factory, Psychiatrists Say

London. — More democracy is needed in the factory.

This was the not surprising conclusion of 2000 psychiatrists and social scientists attending the International Congress of Mental Health here. The experts pointed out that much emotional instability, family and social tensions are caused by the paradox whereby men and women brought up to believe in democratic institutions find themselves working under dictatorial bosses.

"Most current difficulties in industrial human relations are caused by the fact that the industrial social structure has not kept pace with a rapidly changing society," Dr. J. Koekbakker, Dutch psychiatrist said. "Industry should be made more democratic. . . . The industrial worker living in his democratic society where he may vote and where he has a responsible role in groups outside industry gets embarrassed about the situation in his plant, where he has hardly any responsible share in the organization."

The best way to erase workers' emotional problems is to pay fair wages, have decent working conditions and give labor a share in responsible decisions, the scientists declared. Labor unions have forced industrial giants to modify many past dictatorial practices but much still remains to be done.

The combined net income of 20 oil companies totaled \$241,326,500 for the first quarter of 1948, exceeding the March 1947 quarter by 109 per cent.

THEY'RE NOT KIDDING



No fairy-tale is the 1948 version of the story of Jack Spratt, as told by these tots who joined their mothers picketing against high meat prices in New York.

Denham Says Happy Birthday on T-H Anniversary

Washington. — NLRB General Counsel Robert N. Denham came to his office from his sick bed to greet the press with a "Happy Birthday" on the anniversary of one year's operation of the Taft-Hartley Act.

Denham has been away from his desk for two months. He still looked ill but cheerful as he told reporters that "all I can say is Happy New Year."

The Taft-Hartley Act has been fought more bitterly by labor than any other law enacted by the 80th Congress. Each month of its operation has given more ammunition to those who called it a slave labor law and a first step toward fascism. Denham was chosen for the key administrative post of general counsel by the National Assn. of Manufacturers spokesmen who drafted the bill.

Against a background of the outlawing of the closed shop and crippling curbs on hiring halls, picketing and many established union practices, Denham said:

"This has been a most satisfactory year in the administration of the law so many people called iniquitous." He added, "I make no bones about saying this has been a most successful year."

The NLRB counsel made perhaps his frankest statement when he said that he gave greatest credit to what he called holdover employees of the board—those who formerly administered the Wagner Act. He said:

"They had to change their methods of thinking."

Businessmen have also noted and approved the change referred to by Denham. He said, "Businessmen have told me that the change in atmosphere in the field offices is almost miraculous."

Union men could probably have told Denham the same thing, though they most likely would have used different language.

Denham would not commit himself on changes which he thought might be made in the Taft-Hartley law. He said it might still need some clarification and some "tightening up here and there" but he added that while he had been administering the law for a year he has not yet "made a detailed study of the act as requested by Senator Ball." Asked his opinion of bootleg closed or union shop contracts, he said he favored "vigorous enforcement of the law."

Other questions about current labor disputes Denham turned aside with the explanation that he had been away from the office. He concluded the conference by saying:

"I'm not really at the office at all. This is just a birthday party. Thanks for coming."

AFL Warns of Reckoning Day On High Prices

Washington.—There will have to be a day of reckoning on the mounting cost of living, according to the August issue of the AFL Labor's Monthly Survey.

The Survey said "Creeping inflation is still carrying consumer prices steadily upward, with danger to our entire economy and untold loss to workers."

The danger will come, the Survey said, when prices turn down after industry as a whole catches up with demand. Inflation is sapping away consumer buying power so that instead of an orderly price decline there may be a price collapse and acute depression.

As evidence of the danger, the Survey pointed out that savings of both skilled and unskilled workers shrunk between 1947 and 1948. More than half of the families polled by the Federal Reserve Board in a survey felt that they were worse off this year than last because their incomes were not keeping pace with prices.

The AFL bulletin said, "The downward price adjustment is being postponed by government spending for ERP and armaments, but it cannot be escaped. Meanwhile high prices are undermining the reserves and buying power which alone can sustain production when these emergency programs end."

The way out, according to the Survey, is in cooperative action. It said:

"Voluntary action could be taken if a way were provided for responsible representatives of management, labor, farmers, bankers and other economic groups to meet and study the problems of our economy jointly. They could agree on corrective measures and undertake to put them into effect through their respective organizations."

"Local self-government and nation-wide cooperation," said the Survey, have produced "the highest possible living standard" in the U.S. and should be used to preserve it.

When you get the urge to reform human nature it might be well to reflect that the human race has been in operation for a long time and will be functioning long after you are dead and gone.

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OLYMPIC MARATHON RUNNERS

By ED HUGHES

In between Olympics, the marathon runner is a sportive outcast. Seems so dumb to plod 26 miles, plus, when he could take a bus or train. Maybe 'tis dumb. Still, the Olympic Marathon is the blue ribbon event of the games. It produces more color and spectacular flourishes than any other test.

Thinking back, I believe the most remarkable of all Olympic Marathon kings was Albin Stenroos, a Finn, who won the Paris event in 1924. Stenroos was 52 years old!

For the most colorful performer you have Felix Carvajal, long since forgotten. Carvajal, a dwarfish Cuban, should have won the 1904 marathon in St. Louis. Felix came to the games hungry and in rags. He wore civilian pants clipped at knee length, a mangy cap, and heavy hob-nailed shoes. Felix raised the passage on a cattle boat by running a solo marathon in Havana's public square, while the natives flung pennies at him.

In the Olympic grind, Carvajal led for a greater part of the distance. Then hunger got him. He turned off into a fruit orchard and ate. Even so, he made up enough ground to finish fourth. Tom Hicks, a well trained American, won the race. But not until another American had been disqualified. For what? Sneaking a lift on a truck nearing the finish. Oh, that Olympian ideal!

Four years later another Yank, little Johnny Hayes, won under dramatic circumstances in London. Hayes was a N.Y. department store clerk. Most of his training was done on a truck built on the store roof. Hayes was a last minute selection for the U.S. team. Few thought he had a real chance to win.

Dorando Pietri, a mustached, under-sized Italian candymaker, seemed to have the race won. He was all alone leading in the London stadium with less than a lap to go. Suddenly the staggers hit him. Then came a series of collapses—and an agonized cry from the crowd. Another runner had entered the stadium gate—Johnny Hayes.

British-American feeling ran high in those games, and British officials couldn't resist the temptation. They finally picked up Dorando bodily, hauled him across the finish line, declared him the victor. It was too raw, and later Hayes was officially announced the winner.

That was easily the most sensational of all Olympic Marathons. And it started something. A commercial marathon craze swept this country for several years.

Hayes and Dorando turned professional on arriving in New York. They staged many match races, Dorando beating Johnny in practically all of them. Dorando was a real hero. Tin Pan Alley wrote a song about him that was whistled and throatied all over the nation.

Great marathon pluggers popped up everywhere, outdistancing Dorando and Hayes. The U.S. went marathon nuts. Small armies of youngsters plugged through the streets day and night hoping to become a marathon world-beater. We've never developed another Olympic Hayes—and the marathon craze, "pro" or amachoor, never returned. We outgrew that rugged nonsense, which is all to the good.

Joie Ray, our great distance man, "figured" to win the Amsterdam event in '28. He was beaten by an "outsider," El Ouafi, a bushy-haired French Arab. It spurred a last brief flash of the commercial marathon. Ray against the Arab in various cities.

Young folks paid and watched 'em—and yawned. There are softer ways of becoming athletically famous. And today 'tis the Olympic diving and ice skating queens who cash in on Olympian triumphs. Hollywood, theatrical, and well paid instructors' contracts await them.

Where are the snows and the marathon hysteria of yesterday? There was a time, remember, when the Ancient Greeks wouldn't even allow the gals to witness their Olympics!

Building Maintenance Workers Not Covered By Taft-Hartley Act

Washington. — Building maintenance workers are not covered by the Taft-Hartley Act, the NLRB ruled in a decision released here recently. It was the first time that jurisdiction over workers in office buildings was passed on by the board.

The ruling was made in a case brought by 21 employees of the Railway Exchange Building in Kansas City, Mo., who petitioned to unseat Local 96, Building Service Employees Union (AFL) as their bargaining agent.

The decision, which was unanimous, was based on the board's finding that "the employer's operation of a general office building is essentially local in character." Therefore, the board said, "it seems unlikely that a stoppage... of the employer's service... Would have more than a negligible effect on interstate commerce."

THE MARCH OF LABOR



Metropolitan Employees Give Up Demands to Save Opera Season

New York.—The Metropolitan Opera season will go on this year, thanks to the sacrifices of 21 AFL unions representing the opera's 600 employees, who agreed to pass up pay increases and other benefits for a third year.

Announcement that the 1948-49 season of the opera would be presented came August 23, 14 days after the Metropolitan's board of directors, in an anti-union move as hoary as a grand opera plot, cancelled the season, blaming their action on the workers' wage demands. A \$220,000 deficit incurred last season made it impossible to carry on, the board said at the time in a statement snidely hinted that the unions were robbing the American people of their "musical life."

The unions, refusing to let themselves be portrayed as villains, quickly snapped back with the facts in the dispute. Local 802, American Federation of Musicians, one of the 12 unions involved, pointed out that the workers had already agreed to give up their wage demands, although they had received no pay boosts for the last two years.

Sole remaining issue, Local 802 noted, was the workers' request for establishment of unemployment insurance and old age benefits, a demand particularly important to Metropolitan Opera employees who work only half the year.

Furthermore, Local 802 said, it was not up to a small board of blue-bloods to cancel the season since the Metropolitan Opera "belongs... to all the people, those thousands of Americans who have contributed money so that the Metropolitan could continue its existence. It belongs to the employees of the Metropolitan who, on numerous occasions, have made wage sacrifices, have given free services for charitable purposes and actual financial contributions. Local 802 has given direct subsidy to the Metropolitan."

Taking the initiative, the unions under the leadership of singer Lawrence Tibbett, held further talks with the Met's management and finally arrived at the August 23 compromise. The agreement provides:

1. Wage scales will remain unchanged.
2. In future years all union contracts will be made to end on June 30 by which time negotiations for the following season will have also been completed.
3. The management will attempt to extend federal social security

MOURNS BABE RUTH



Symbol of the mourning millions who grieved over the passing of the mighty Babe Ruth is this youngster who wipes away a tear as he passes the Babe's bier, lying in state in Yankee Stadium. Thousands of New Yorkers paid a final tribute to the great athlete who became a national hero.

On The Housing Bill

By BRADFORD V. CARTER, Labor Press Associates Feature Writer

What Americans proudly flaunt before the world as the "American way of life" is being profoundly changed by the current shortage of housing. The cheerful, well-groomed family with mother and dad on a cool, airy porch and the kids playing in the fenced-in grass plot in front—long the pet subject of full color magazine ads—is no longer typical. Ask the 2,000,000 families who are living "doubled up."

There were a lot of hopes exploded when Senator Taft, in the special session of Congress, abandoned his own baby, the Taft-Ellender-Wagner bill. This would have set a national goal of 15,000,000 dwelling units in the next ten years, including 500,000 units for low-income families built by local authorities with public funds. In addition, it provided financial incentives to builders and investors to construct rental housing, and homes in the "middle price" range. Finally, for the first time it would have granted funds to aid cities that wanted to plan their growth, and to undertake a program of slum clearance.

Housing experts are now pulling themselves together, to see what can be salvaged from the "teeny-weeny" housing bill finally passed by the Republicans in early August. What does this mean to people looking for homes, either now or in the next few years?

The bill passed is unquestionably a gray train for the mortgage industry and some people here charge it would "socialize" the insurance companies through its federal insurance of up to a cool one-billion dollars which these insurance companies might invest in rental housing. The mortgage bankers will do all of the lending, and under circum-

stances eliminating all risk, for any single-family developments insured as a result of the new housing bill. And they'll be allowed to charge home buyers 4 1/2 per cent interest, instead of the current rate of 4 per cent.

The mortgage bankers are also allowed to hold a greater proportion of their notes in the form of federally insured GI mortgages. They're allowed under the new law to refinance 50 per cent of their notes in GI mortgages, instead of the 25 per cent allowed previously.

All these provisions are exactly the sort of terms that Senator Taft said were "inflationary" in his own T-E-W bill. That was his shamefaced argument for not passing the bill with public low-rent housing and slum clearance provisions in it. Actually, it's pretty clear from here that Taft abandoned his own bill because it couldn't get past those stalwart foes of public housing, the three men who rule the House with an iron hand, Representatives Charles Halleck (R., Ind.), Jesse Wolcott (R., Mich.) and Joseph Martin (R., Mass.).

Housing officials are encouraged—and somewhat amazed—to find on reading the 102-page bill that there is a provision to encourage co-operative housing projects. There's also a section granting the Federal Housing Agency the power to make loans to local and state housing authorities which will be enabled to construct non-profit and limited dividend developments.

Exactly what this will mean depends on how it is interpreted by FHA Administrator Raymond Foley and his staff. The regulations are not yet completed, and their publication is awaited eagerly by a lot of people here in Washington and around the country.

Cost of Fighting Nazis

By RICHARD SASULY, Federated Press Feature Writer

A man named Max Ilgner was recently set free by a U.S. court in Nuremberg, Germany. A man named Harry D. White was recently killed by congressional inquisition. Both events were parts of the same picture.

Ilgner was a director of I. G. Farben. Farben was the hidden power behind the Nazi war-makers. Ilgner headed a secret ring of spies within Farben's business organization.

On the surface I. G. Farben was simply a chemical trust, on the world's biggest corporations. U.S. investigators proved conclusively that Farben was a main spring behind Nazi aggression in World War II. Yet Ilgner and other Farben directors were turned loose by American judges at Nuremberg.

Harry White was the former assistant secretary of the Treasury who was caught by a vague smear charge in the Washington spy scare. Already a sick man, he went before the House Un-American Activities Committee. He defended himself and a code of liberal belief magnificently. And a few days later he died of a heart attack.

It was my fortune to have met both Ilgner and White. The first time I saw Ilgner he was in a room in Frankfurt guarded by a bored GI who casually patted his carbine every time Ilgner started toward the door. I went to see him because he had brazenly handed another GI in my outfit a letter to other Farben directors in which he told them to sit tight and wait for the American investigation to pass over.

My first meeting with White occurred after I got back from Germany in 1946. I saw him in his office at the Treasury and told him my version of the policy fight in Germany which ended with polite dismissal of a small group who had fought hardest for an anti-Nazi program in the German occupation. My story of that fight spelled personal defeat for White. More than any other man in the government he had pushed for the anti-Nazi policy. Though no one could know it at the time, the story was also his death sentence.

It could be said that White drew on himself the fire of the Thomas committee because he was a New Dealer. But there were many New Dealers to choose from. White was a prime target because he

had a creative and fearless mind and because he never ducked the main fights.

White was in many fights. At the Bretton Woods conference he took on the whole banking fraternity. In my opinion, his biggest fight came over Germany.

The basic U.S. policies, written during the war at the direction of Franklin D. Roosevelt, were simple and clear. They said that Nazis and the cartels which nourished them would have to go.

Within Germany, after V-E Day, the story was not so simple. From my own experience, I am prepared to swear before any committee in Washington that high ranking American officials in Germany sabotaged the anti-Nazi policies from the start.

If names are wanted, I would single out Robert Murphy, the State Department man on Eisenhower's staff, and General William Draper, the Wall Street man in charge of German industry. Those men, and the people around them, sat on denazification orders and protected German cartels.

The German fight reached back to the highest circles in Washington. There the main center of support for the anti-Nazi position was in the Treasury Department. Within the Treasury the main leader of the fight was Harry D. White.

White's battle in support of Roosevelt policies was lost. And now the results of the defeat can be seen.

Within Germany the cartels are successfully working their way back to power. Men like Ilgner are turned loose.

Here, men like White become victims of the witch hunters. White was badgered with a flimsy charge of espionage. In some cases, the German fight has been used directly.

Representative George Dondero (R., Mich.) tried to hang a Communist tag on Judge Robert Patterson. He said that Patterson as Under-Secretary of War had approved hiring of ten Reds. I was interested in this because I was one of the accused ten. I found that the only possible connection among the ten was that all had taken some part in the German policy fight—on the anti-Nazi side.

There is still no happy ending to this story, but there is a moral. The fight against the Nazis did not end with American troops at the River Elbe in Germany.

Economics of Cold War

The cold war has its economic side which does not make the headlines. But the economics of the cold war affect the living standards of workers and their families.

To begin with, there is the cost of the cold war in dollars-and-cents which come out of the pockets of the American people. In the 1949 fiscal year—the 12 months starting July 1, 1948—the direct and indirect costs of the cold war will run about \$21 billion. That is 50 per cent of the total government budget. If the cost of past wars is added to the cost of the cold war, the total amount runs to 80 per cent of the budget for the 1949 fiscal year.

A breakdown of the costs of the cold war in terms of their impact on the average citizen and his family shows that the cost to each man, woman and child is about \$150 a year. For a family of four that means \$600 a year is being spent for the cold war instead of being used to improve their living standards.

The average worker in manufacturing industry today is making something like \$2700 a year. If the \$600 were given to him in the form of a wage increase, he would get a boost of 22 per cent.

Moreover, the worker and his family have to pay higher prices because of the cold war. Inflation went into a third whirl of price increases in mid-1947, following announcement of the Marshall Plan. The third round of inflation cost the American people \$15 billion a year in price increases.

That breaks down to more than \$100 per person, or over \$400 per family. Adding the burden of the cold war to the cost of its inflationary consequences, we find that the total comes to about \$1000 a family. That much money is coming out of their pockets to pay for the cold war and inflation, instead of being used to buy more food and clothing, better

housing and to put something away for a rainy day.

What is worse, the cost to the average family is increasing, as inflation swings into its fourth round with prices being boosted because of the pressures of the huge re-armament program.

In economic terms, the cold war means heavy taxes, high prices and lower consumption. The billions that are being spent for armaments and the additional billions that the people are losing to inflation could be used to raise living standards and create a better life for all Americans.

Contrast the \$21 billion for the cold war with the current federal appropriation of \$327 million for housing and community facilities. Sixty-four times as much is being spent for the cold war as for housing. The cost to the government of underwriting the building of 2 million low cost, low rent homes in the coming year would be less than \$2 billion.

Two billion dollars is being spent in the coming year for social security and health purposes. If \$10 or \$12 billions were spent for this purpose, old age pensions could be doubled, disability benefits could be paid in the event of illness or accidents, unemployment benefits could be increased and adequate medical care could be provided for the entire population through a program of national health insurance.

The cold war is stoking the flames of inflation; is burdening the people with heavy taxes, including the vicious excise taxes on consumption; is destroying their living standards.

The people work harder, but find they can eat less and buy less clothing and other essentials.

And above all, the cold war is increasing the strains within the economy and setting off a chain-reaction which can only end in a devastating explosion that will bring depression and mass unemployment.

CARPENTER ROUNDUP

Another new building construction job that is drawing much attention in the community is the request for bids on a ten million dollar medium security prison at Camphoria located three miles north of Soledad.

Stone and Webster are the contractors on the thirty-five million dollar P & E program for Moss Landing. It is expected that a call for men will be made within thirty days. Key men are now opening offices in Salinas in preparation for this immense job.

An Apprenticeship Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, August 25, this was an original general apprentice council. This joint meeting was composed of officers of the various joint councils that are being reorganized and was held in the Agricultural Building in the High School. Mr. Grissom is Chairman and this Apprenticeship Council will meet the fourth Wednesday.

Members of the Local who may be out of work and are eligible for unemployment insurance, please take advantage. In line with the new system that has been worked out, members of 925 should call at the Union office and secure certification cards which will be dated by the Secretary in the Union office. Where members have had more than \$30, which is 1% of

\$3,000 earnings with-held from wages for unemployment insurance, the amount over \$30 may be redeemed by making application, provided that the application is filed the first six months of the year. Further information at the local union office may be obtained.

Both Labor Day, September 6, and Admission Day, Sept. 9, are legal Building and Construction Council holidays and shall not be worked.

Ickes Hits Farm Labor Situation Under T-H Law

Washington (LPA)—If the Taft-Hartley law can be used successfully to perpetuate, within the framework of free enterprise and civil liberty, an inhuman system of industrial feudalism, such as that which has been a disgrace in California, then the sooner this is brought into the open the better, said Harold Ickes in his syndicated newspaper column.

Ickes was referring to the situation at the Di Giorgio Ranch near Bakersfield, Calif., where members of National Farm Labor Union-AFL have been on strike for ten months now. The strikers, who have been up against the notorious Associated Farmers of California, have endured smears and violence and finally a Taft-Hartley injunction which NFLU President H. L. Mitchell says the union will immediately appeal to the Supreme Court.

"It is to be hoped," writes Ickes, "that the California farm workers will persist in the purpose to carry their case to the Supreme Court... What the workers have asked for, and were forced to strike for, is an opportunity to discuss with their employers their desire to live decently, in the American way. This has been denied them."

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